

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 9 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 and 9 are in independent form.

The Office Action has held that the drawings that were previously submitted were colored drawings. Enclosed herewith are black and white drawings that do not require any petitions or additional fees.

Claims 1-4 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a single purified α -N-acetyl-D-galactosaminidase (NAG) purified from *C. perfringens* comprising the full length amino acid SEQ ID No. 11, does not reasonably provide enablement for any variants or mutants having the peptide sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOS. 1-10 or functional analogs of the same. In order to further prosecution, the claims have been amended to only recite SEQ ID NO. 11 and reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Office Action has held that the specification teaches the isolation and characterization of a single species of NAG as shown in SEQ ID NO. 11. In order to further prosecution the claims have been amended to be limited to SEQ ID NO. 11 and consideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, it is respectfully submitted that the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests to be contacted by telephone if any remaining issues exist.



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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 11-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marie M. Lally